

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to replace the Sequence Listing submitted on June 9, 2003, with a substitute Sequence Listing. The substitute Sequence Listing corrects errors in SEQ ID NOs:1 and 2. Support for amended SEQ ID NOs:1 and 2 may be found, for example, in Figure 1A which recites the correct amino acid sequence for human BAFF (SEQ ID NO:1) and murine BAFF (SEQ ID NO:2).

Subject to the approval of the Examiner, Figures 1A-1C have been amended to replace the term "MARCH" with "BAFF." Support for the amendments to these Figures can be found in the specification at page 8, lines 11-15. Applicants note that "MARCH" was merely an early name for the ligand now commonly known as "BAFF." Applicants have provided a copy of original Figures 1A-1C with the proposed changes shown in red. Replacement sheets for Figures 1A, 1B, and 1C are also attached.

All pending claims have been cancelled and new claims 51-64 were added in order to more specifically point out the claimed embodiments. Support for new claims 51-64 may be found in the specification, for example, as stated in Applicants' Amendment filed on January 27, 2004. Additionally, support for new claims 60-64 can be found on pages 15-17.

No new matter is introduced by any of the above amendments.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants believe that the claims are in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner require further clarification, the Examiner is welcome to call the undersigned at (617) 452-1650.

Applicants do not believe that any extension of time is necessary for entry of this Amendment. However, in the event of an error, please grant any extensions of time required and charge any required fee to Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: May 18, 2004

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leslie McDonell", is written over a horizontal line.

Leslie McDonell
Reg. No. 34,872



BAFF
hMARCH
mMARCH
BAFF

1 MDDSTE-REQSRLTSC LKREEMK LKKECVS I LPRKESPIV R - SSKDGK LLAATLLLA
1 MDES AKTLP P PCLCF CSEKGE DMK VGYDP - ITPQKEEGIAWFGICRRDGRLLAATLLLA

TMD

BAFF
hMARCH
mMARCH
BAFF

56 LLSCLT VVSF YQVAALQGD LAS LRAELQGH HAEKLPAGAGAP KAGLEEAPAVTAGL
57 LLSSSF TAMSL YQLAALQADLMN LRMELQSYRG SATPAAAGAP - - - - - ELTAGV

BAFF
hMARCH
mMARCH
BAFF

113 KIFEP P APGEGN SSSQNSRNKRA VQGPEET - - - - - PGLPCHSQHDDNGMN
106 KLLTPA APRPHN SSSRGNRRRAFP GPPEET EQD VDL SAPPA CLPGRHSQHDDNGMN

BAFF
hMARCH
mMARCH
BAFF

141 - - - VTQDC LQLIADSE TPT IQKGS YTFVPWLLSFKRGS ALEEKENKILVKE TGYFFFI
163 LRNI IQDC LQLIADSD TPT IIRKGT YTFVPWLLSFKRGN ALEEKENKIVVRQ TGYFFFI

BAFF
hMARCH
mMARCH
BAFF

196 YGQVLYTDK TYAMGH L IQRKKVHVFGDELSLVTLFRCIQNMPE TLPNNNSCYSAGIAR
220 YSQVLYTDPI F AMGHV IQRKKVHVFGDELSLVTLFRCIQNMPPK TLPNNNSCYSAGIAR

BAFF
hMARCH
mMARCH
BAFF

253 LEEGDE LQ LAIPRENAQIS LDGDV TFFGALKLL
277 LEEGDE IQLAIPRENAQIS RN added TFFGALKLL

FIG. 1A



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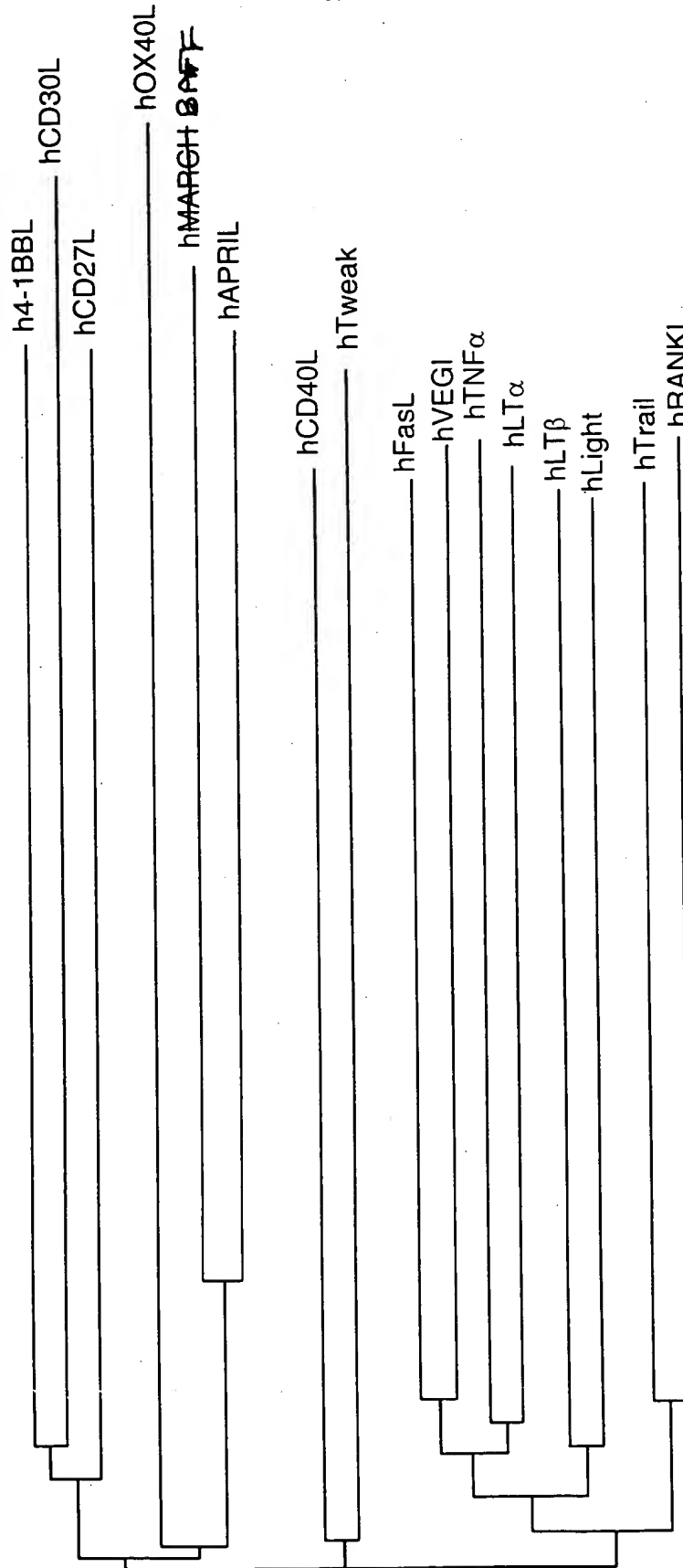


FIG. 1C